REPORT NO. 78-3-6

FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT UNIT
U.S. FOREST SERVICE
DORAVILLE, GEORGIA

REPORT OF AERIAL DETECTION SURVEY

LAND OWNERSHIP OR SURVEY AREA: Apalachicola National Forest, Apalachicola and Wakulla Ranger Districts

STATE: Florida

COUNTY(S): Liberty, Franklin, Leon, Wakulla

AREA WITHIN SURVEY BOUNDARY: 632,600 acres

PERCENT COVERAGE: 25%

DATE SURVEYED: 1/26/78

AIRCRAFT: Cessna 182

CREW: C. W. Dull
W. A. Carothers

REPORT PREPARED BY: C. W. Dull

SURVEY METHODS AND OBJECTIVES: The purpose of this aerial survey was to determine the status and location of pine bark beetle activity on the Apalachicola National Forest.

Several areas of dying pines were observed during an aerial survey conducted in November 1976. A subsequent aerial survey in January 1977 detected 12 spots of red and fading pines ranging in size from 2 to 400 trees. This was the first reported occurrence of the southern pine beetle (SPB) on the Apalachicola Ranger District.

In preparing for the current aerial survey, CISC (Continuous Inventory of Stand Conditions) data and conversations with District personnel provided information to delineate areas within the Apalachicola National Forest where susceptible host type was present (Fig. 1). Complete coverage of the pine type in the southern pine beetle outbreak area was provided during the current survey.

SURVEY RESULTS

No red and fading pine trees suspected to contain southern pine beetle were observed on National forest lands or adjacent private lands.

SUMMARY

Southern pine beetle activity is at a low level on the Apalachicola National Forest.

It appears that the southern pine beetle population has been effectively controlled by the suppression project in 1977.

District personnel should report the reoccurrence of dying pines suspected of SPB attack. Control measures outlined in the Project Control Plan should be implemented should SPB infestations reappear.

For any additional information, Contact

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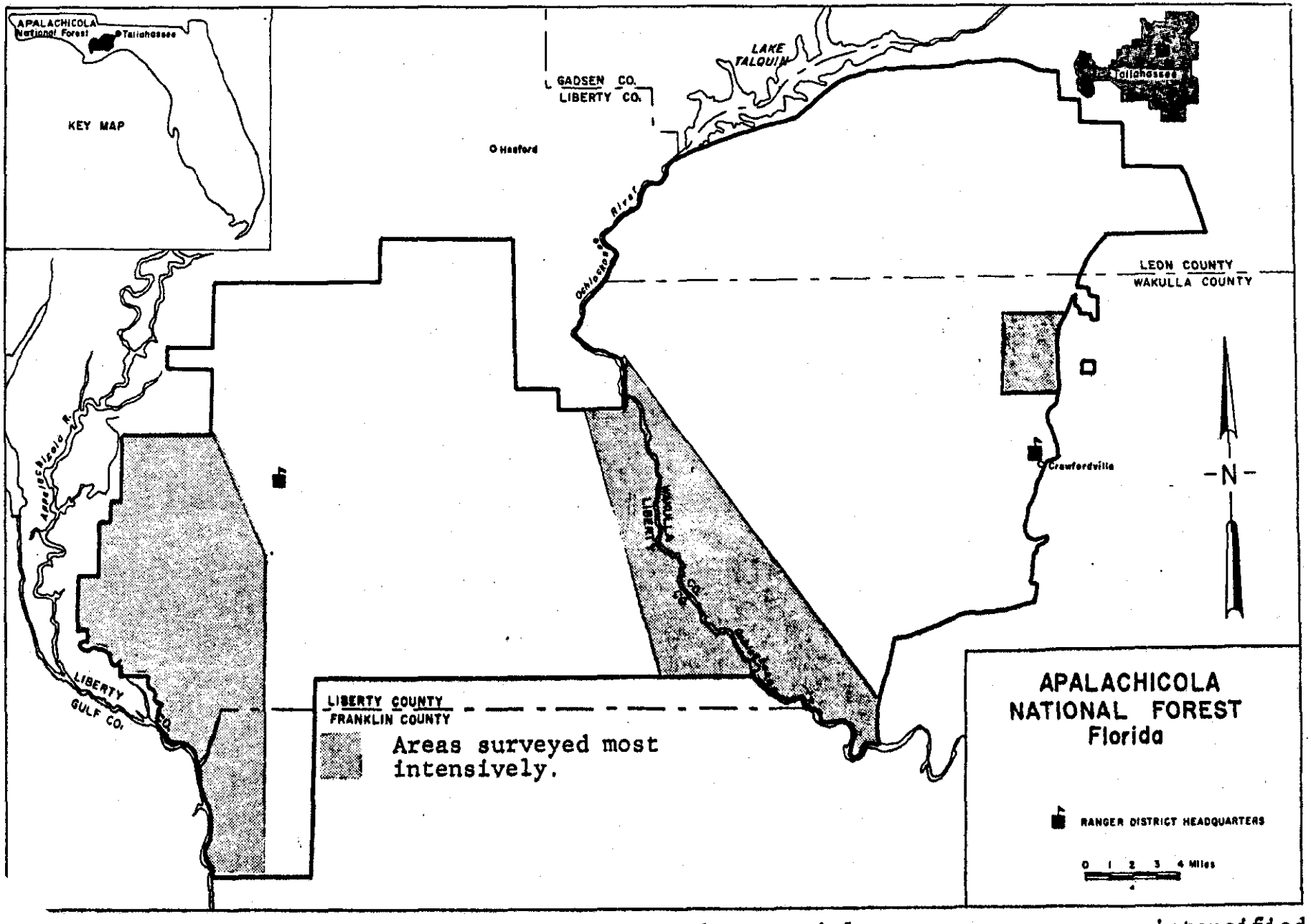

Fig. 1. Areas of southern pine beetle host type where aerial survey coverage was intensified.